



Notice of Public Meeting and Public Comment for Draft Water Quality Improvement Plan (Implementation Plan) for Greenvale, Beach and Paynes Creeks in Lancaster County

Actions to restore water quality in three Lancaster County creeks will be the subject of a meeting to be held Wednesday, October 7th at the St. Mary's Whitechapel Episcopal Church Assembly Hall, 5940 Whitechapel Rd, in Lancaster, Virginia. The meeting to discuss the draft Implementation Plan (IP) for Greenvale, Beach and Paynes creeks is hosted by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

The three tidal creeks that feed into the Rappahannock River are on the state's list of dirty or impaired waters and shellfish harvesting has been restricted due to excessive bacteria levels. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality has developed a total maximum daily load, or a TMDL, for these creeks. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, bacteria levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

The meeting will be held from 6:30-8:30. It will focus on the content of the Draft IP, including the corrective actions necessary to reduce bacteria levels and improve water quality in these three creeks. The implementation plan has been under development for the past six months, including a series of local meetings and input from local citizens and government agencies. There will be a 30 day comment period following the release of this document to the public. **Comments will be due November 9, 2009.**

For more information, contact May Sligh, IP coordinator with the DCR – Tappahannock Field Office by phone at (804)443-1494 and by e-mail at

may.sligh@dcr.virginia.gov or James Davis-Martin at (804) 225-3785 and by e-mail, james.davis-martin@dcr.virginia.gov. **It is preferred that all comments on the draft document be provided to the e-mail addresses above, though they may also be sent to: DCR Tappahannock Regional Office, P.O. Box 1425, Tappahannock, VA 22560.** The TMDL study information is also available on the DEQ web site at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl.